



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/15/2022

Time: 09:00 AM

Location: 325 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Energy &
Environmental Protection

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2612, SD2 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a reusable utensil pilot project in Department of Education schools on Molokai. Requires the Department of Education to submit an interim report and a final report to the Legislature on the feasibility of statewide implementation. Appropriates moneys. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2612, SD2.

The Department will need to procure utensils for the duration of the pilot project to support approximately 1,000 students enrolled in Department schools on Moloka'i to explore the use of reusable utensils in and by school cafeterias for student meals.

The Department has confirmed with the Department of Health (DOH) that multi-use (reusable) utensils may be used and that they must be treated as any other food contact surface which must be properly cleaned and sanitized prior to use. The Department has also confirmed with the DOH that the feasible cleaning methods include the cafeteria's current manual ware-washing method, which uses the three-compartment sink for proper washing, rinsing, and sanitizing by the School Food Services Branch cafeteria staff. Further, the Department will continue to explore the feasibility of statewide implementation of a reusable utensil program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments supporting the intent of this

measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2612, S.D. 2

March 15, 2022
9:00 a.m.
Room 325 and Videoconference

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2612, S.D. 2: 1) establishes a reusable utensil pilot project in Department of Education (DOE) schools on Moloka'i that shall start on August 1, 2022, and end on June 30, 2023; 2) requires DOE to report to the Legislature on the feasibility of statewide implementation; and 3) appropriates an unspecified sum of general funds in FY 23 for the purposes of this measure.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

SB-2612-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 4:35:02 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lydia Trinidad	Kualapuu Public Conversion Charter School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha -- I am Lydia Trinidad, Principal of Kualapuu Public Conversion Charter School on Molokai. For more than 20 years the Kualapuu School cafeteria has been using plastic utensils and paper plates to serve breakfasts and lunches at school. Schools need to become more sustainable by not purchasing supplies that will end up in the landfill after one use.

The school continues to use paper plates and plastic forks to serve over 800 meals daily. This is unsustainable for our land and landfill. It is estimated that with 800 paper plates, and 800 forks daily, and 180 school days, about 288,000 paper plates and plastic utensils yearly are added to our limited Molokai landfill. Over 3 years, that adds up to 864,000 pieces of plates and plastic being added to the landfill.

The alternative is to eliminate single use plates, utensils, and cups when we serve school meal to our students. However, we will need to upgrade and replace our kitchen equipment so we can become a sustainable school. We have priced our upgrade/refurbishing at \$500,000. However over the past 20 years, we have spent about \$500,000 in paper plates, single use plastic utensils, and plastic cups -- all of this ended up in the landfill.

Over the long term, by refurbishing our equipment and eliminating single use paper plates, plastic utensils, and plastic cups will not only save costs, but more importantly save our landfill and environment.

Thank you for your continued support of this measure.

SB-2612-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:32:23 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our schools should be teaching our keiki environmental responsibility, rather than training them in the wasteful consumption of single-use plastics. This program is a too-late, too-small step to stem our mad race to inundate the planet in plastic waste. It's nothing new. When I was in K-12 we had only reusable utensils in the school cafeteria, and all the food waste went to pig farmers. How hard can it be to do what was common practice 60 years ago?

SB-2612-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 3:58:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sounds to much like Comnist Proaganda!!